

Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of

Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's  
RM-10413 Amateur Service Rules Governing  
Operating Privileges

PERSONAL COMMENTS OF BRIAN BURKE, N0IMD

#### OVERVIEW

These comments are in response to the ARRL proposal for "refarming" the existing HF Novice subbands on the 80, 40 and 15 meter bands.

#### I. Discussion:

The ARRL petition does not address the implementation of new technologies by radio amateurs as repeatedly requested by the Commission in WT Docket 98-143. I propose that the Commission take this opportunity to provide the Amateur Radio Service with a new incentive to develop new modes on the amateur HF bands by permitting and encouraging the use of new, experimental and nontraditional modes in the Novice subbands without the need for a Special Temporary Authority (STA).

Advances in technology, changes in the license structure and test requirements have eliminated the need for special HF subbands for Novice and Technician Plus licensees. The "Novice subbands" have long outlived their regulatory purpose, so I propose they be reallocated to enhance the ability of the Amateur Radio service "to contribute to the advancement of the radio art".

#### II Proposal:

A. To streamline the rules and to migrate Novice users, if any remain, I propose:

- 1) Allow Novice (and Technician with code credit) licensees be authorized to use all non-voice modes currently authorized in all of the MF and HF spectrum, with the exception of 10M, now authorized for General class licensees, using the lesser amplifier power of,

- a) 200 watts or

- b) the power output level that does not require an RF evaluation as described in 97.13.c.1.,

- 2) Remove the 200 watt amplifier power limitation in the former Novice subbands for all higher license classes.

- 3) On 10 meters, allow Novice (and Technician with code credit) licensees all modes now authorized for General and Extra class licensees, using no more than the power output level that does not require an RF evaluation as described in 97.13.c.1..

B. To populate the current Novice segments, I propose the current Novice subbands be reallocated for non-traditional and experimental modes such as digitized voice, digitized image, high speed data, and other forward looking communications methods, without modulation, coding, or bandwidth restriction other than it must be contained wholly within the former Novice segment.

C. The above proposal:

- 1) Integrates the Novice (and Technician with code credit) with the mainstream amateur radio operators.
- 2) Streamlines the rules with regard to band/mode/power of the licensees.
- 3) Encourages amateurs to embrace the basis and purpose of the amateur service.

III. Vitae: I passed my Novice exam in November 1986, and have not used the Novice CW only subbands since 1987.

Respectfully submitted,

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